## Message Text

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PAGE 01 MEXICO 03115 222320Z ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 AID-05 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 SOE-02 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-08 EPA-04 INR-10 IO-14 L-03 NSF-02 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-05 USIA-15 SS-15 SP-02 DOE-11 INT-05 /129 W

-----122374 230610Z /14

R 222313Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8462

UNCLAS MEXICO 03115

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCOM, MX, US, UNEP SUBJECT: DESERTIFICATION

REF: (A) MEXICO 2408, (B) LONG-WILCOX 2/17 TELECON

- 1. MEXICAN INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE CONTINUES PROGRESSING, ALBEIT SLOWLY, TOWARD DEVELOPMENT OF MEXICO'S NATIONAL PLAN. SUBGROUPS ARE WORKING IN THE FOUR AREAS IDENTIFIED IN PARA 5 OF REFTEL A. EDUCATION, TRAINING AND DIFFUSION SUBGROUP AND RESEARCH SUBGROUP HAVE BOTH PRODUCED DRAFTS, BUT OTHER TWO SUBGROUPS (BUDGET/INVESTMENT) AND TYPIFICATION (LOCATION OF AREAS) ARE HAVING ROUGHER SLEDDING. COORDINATORS OF FOUR SUBGROUPS HAVE BEEN CHARGED WITH PRODUCING A COORDINATED DOCUMENT, TERMED A "PREDIAGNOSIS," AND HAVE AGREED TO DO SO BY MARCH 16.
- 2. FLORES TELLS US THEY ARE NOT WILLING TO SET A DATE FOR THE BILATERAL MEETING UNTIL THERE IS AT LEAST A "SKETCH" OF THE COMPLETE NATIONAL PLANS. HE DID SAY THE COMMITTEE HAD BEEN INFORMED OF THE PRELIMINARY US SUGGESTIONS FOR AN AGENDA (PARA 4 OF STATE 28397) AND WAS VERY MUCH IN AGREE-UNCLASSIFIED

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PAGE 02 MEXICO 03115 222320Z

MENT WITH THEM.

- 3. DOCUMENTS PREPARED ON MEXICAN SIDE ARE NECESSARILY "INTERNAL" AT THIS POINT.
- 4. COMMENT: IT APPEARS THAT MEXICAN SIDE WILL BE PROGRESSING SLOWLY, BUT THAT A BILATERAL MEETING BEFORE

THE YEAR IS OUT WILL DEFINITELY STILL BE DESIRABLE. WE WILL ENDEAVOR TO CONTINUE TO REPORT AS WE LEARN DEVELOPMENTS AND WILL APPRECIATE CONTINUING INFORMATION ON PROGRESS IN USG INTERAGENCY WORKING GROUP. THOMPSON

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## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** Concepts: SOIL EROSION, RECLAIMED LAND

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 22 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960 Decaption Note: Disposition Action: n/a

Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment: Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960 Disposition Event: Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978MEXICO03115
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D780083-0560

Format: TEL From: MEXICO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780229/aaaaaxtt.tel

Line Count: 66 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 40212bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION OES

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 78 MEXICO 2408

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags:

Review Date: 29 mar 2005 **Review Event:** Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: N/A

Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3523049 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: DESERTIFICATION

TAGS: SENV, OCON, MX, US, UNEP To: STATE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/40212bd2-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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